Fee Attached Fee Attached Licensing-related Papers Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Rept) Brief) Petition Affidavits/declaration(s) Extension of Time Request Express Abandonment Request Information Disclosure Statement Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts/ under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Name Steptoe & Johnson LLP Signature Printed name Harold H. Fox Date February 1, 2005 Reg. No. 41,498 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service wits useful date show below:	MARKS TR	ANSMITTAL FORM	filing) B	Filing Date First Named Inventor Art Unit Examiner Name Attorney Docket Number	09/982,92 October 2	22, 2001 I. Knowles Flandro
Firm Name Steptoe & Johnson LLP Signature Printed name Harold H. Fox Date February 1, 2005 Reg. No. 41,498 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or the date shown below:	Amendm A Extension Express Information Certified Documer Reply to Incomple	ee Attached ent/Reply fter Final ffidavits/declaration(s) n of Time Request Abandonment Request on Disclosure Statement Copy of Priority nt(s) Missing Parts/ te Application eply to Missing Parts		Drawing(s) Licensing-related Papers Petition Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocat Change of Correspondence Ferminal Disclaimer Request for Refund CD, Number of CD(s) Landscape Table on C	ion Address	After Allowance Communication to TC Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below):
Printed name Harold H. Fox Date February 1, 2005 Reg. No. 41,498 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service wit sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or the date shown below:	Firm Name		TURE O	F APPLICANT, ATT	ORNEY,	OR AGENT
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Signature	sufficient postage the date shown b	nat this correspondence is less as first class mail in an er	neina facsir	mile transmitted to the USF	TO or depo	osited with the United States Postal Service with

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Typed or printed name

Attorney's Docket No.: 14921.0015



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Steven M. Knowles

Art Unit: 3679

Serial No.:

09/982,928

Examiner: Ryan M. Flandro

Filed:

October 22, 2001

Title:

FLEXIBLE JOINT ASSEMBLY, SERVICE, AND SYSTEM USING A

FLEXIBLE JOINT ASSEMBLY

Mail Stop AF

United States Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria VA 22314

REPLY TO ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 3, 2004

In response to the Final Office Action mailed November 3, 2004, Applicants submit the following remarks and amendments in this request for reconsideration.